

CONSERVATION SECURITY PROGRAM

Pennsylvania

FRENCH CREEK WATERSHED

GENERAL HABITAT SELF-ASSESSMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

CROPLAND, HAYLAND, OR PASTURE

This questionnaire provides a way of rating your property for important wildlife habitat for this watershed. There are four conditions which must be met for the Non-Production areas described in the questions on the following pages.

- 1) All of these areas must be under your control* and you must agree to continue maintaining them as described in this questionnaire.
- 2) All of these areas must not be mown from April 15th through July 31st every year.
- 3) In addition to controlling noxious weeds, invasive plants such as Tree-of-Heaven are being controlled.
- 4) The crop residues from at least 50% of the acreage of crops grown for grain (especially corn) is left undisturbed from harvest until March 15th, and at least one-half of this undisturbed grain acreage (especially corn) does not have liquid manure applied before March 15th.**

The following questions help determine if the land you wish to enroll in the Conservation Security Program (CSP) meets quality criteria for a wildlife Resource Management System (RMS). Please read and answer each question by checking Yes or No.

* Adjacent public land can be considered in addition to land under your control. This will be limited to federal or state land managed specifically for wildlife, forest, or parks.

** The crop residues from at least 25% of the total acreage of crops grown for grain (especially corn) does not have liquid manure applied before March 15th. Examples of disturbance are mowing, shredding, disking and other tillage, burning, or removing the crop residue (baling).

Yes **No**

If you answered “No,” please skip to Question No. 4.

2. Is at least **ten percent** of the land you are offering to enroll (for example, 20 acres per 200 acres) grass areas not harvested for hay, field borders, wetlands, springs or seeps, buffers including riparian areas, hedgerows, windbreaks managed for wildlife, or other un-grazed woodland?

Please Note: No more than 10 acres of woodland are credited in any one location.

-- OR --

Is at least **five percent** of the land you are offering to enroll (for example, 10 acres per 200 acres) grass areas not harvested for hay, field borders, wetlands, springs or seeps, buffers including riparian areas, hedgerows, windbreaks managed for wildlife, or other un-grazed woodland, **AND** at least **five percent** of the land you are offering to enroll is un-harvested corn or sorghum?

Please Note: No more than 10 acres of woodland are credited in any one location.

If you answered “No,” please skip to Question No. 4.

3. Are all of the areas described in Question No. 2, including the un-harvested crops, at least 30 feet wide?

If you answered “Yes” to Questions No.’s 1, 2 & 3, your questionnaire is complete.

Please Note: The following questions (No's. 4 – 10) apply to blocks of contiguous land less than 100 acres in size, or any size blocks of contiguous land that is less than ten percent Non-Production areas (grass areas not harvested for hay, field borders, wetlands, springs or seeps, buffers including riparian buffers, hedgerows, windbreaks managed for wildlife, or other un-grazed woodland).

4. Is at least **five percent** of each block of land you are offering to enroll (for example, 10 acres per 200 acres) grass areas not harvested for hay, field borders, wetlands, springs or seeps, buffers including riparian areas, hedgerows, windbreaks managed for wildlife, or other un-grazed woodland?

-- OR --

Is at least **2½ percent** of each block of land you are offering to enroll (for example, 5 acres per 200 acres) grass areas not harvested for hay, field borders, wetlands, springs or seeps, buffers including riparian areas, hedgerows, windbreaks managed for wildlife, or other un-grazed woodland, **AND** at least **2½ percent** of each block of land you are offering to enroll is un-harvested corn or sorghum? _____

If you answered “No,” please skip to Question No. 7.

Yes No

5. Are all of the areas described in Question No. 4, including the un-harvested crops, at least 30 feet wide? _____

6. Are all of the areas described in Question No. 4 located within 1,000 feet, in any one direction, from the center of all your cropland, hayland, or pasture fields?*** _____

If you answered “Yes” to Questions No.’s 4, 5 & 6, your questionnaire is complete.

7. Is at least **2½ percent** of each block of land you are offering to enroll (for example, 5 acres per 200 acres) grass areas not harvested for hay, field borders, wetlands, springs or seeps, buffers including riparian areas, hedgerows, windbreaks managed for wildlife, or other un-grazed woodland? _____

8. Are all of the areas described in Question No. 7, including the un-harvested crops, at least 30 feet wide? _____

9. Are all of the areas described in Question No. 7 located within 1,000 feet, in any one direction, from the center of all your cropland, hayland, or pasture fields?*** _____

10. Is at least **ten percent of the cropland** sown with a cover crop by September 15th, the cover crop is not harvested, and a Spring crop is no-tilled into the cover crop? _____

If you answered “Yes” to Question No.’s 7, 8, 9 & 10, your questionnaire is complete.

*** The distance between Non-Production areas within or adjacent to cropland, pasture, or hayland is not more than 2,000 ft.